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# STATEMENT OF RECORDS

## BURNT, MISSING, ETC.,

AND DATE OF QUALIFICATION OF THE FIRST RECORDER, IN THE ORGANIZED COUNTIES OF TEXAS,

—COMPILED BY—

JAMES F. STARR, MARSHALL, TEXAS.

JULY 9th, 1885.

SECOND EDITION.

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NOTE:—Where no records have been burnt, missing, etc., nothing is stated under that head opposite to the name of the county. Books designated by letters or numbers, are records of deeds, etc., unless otherwise stated.

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COUNTY.	Date of Qualification of First Recorder.	RECORDS BURNT, MISSING, ETC.
Anderson	July 25, 1846.	
Angelina	July 31, 1846.	Pages 309 to 323 torn out of book A.
Aransas	Dec. 29, 1871.	
Archer	Aug. 10, 1880.	
Atascosa	Aug. 20, 1856.	
Austin	Mch. 27, 1837.	
Baudera	Mch. 26, 1856.	
Bastrop	Apr. 14, 1837.	
Baylor	June 27, 1879.	
Bee	Feb. 10, 1858.	
Bell	Aug. 21, 1850.	
Bexar	1837.	
Blanco	May, 1858.	Aug. 15, 1876, all records burnt.
Bosque	Aug. 28, 1854.	
Bowie	Feb. 19, 1841.	
Brazoria		First instrument filed for record Feb. 10, 1837.
Brazos		First instrument filed for record Apr. 26, 1841.
Brown	Aug. 28, 1858.	The county was called "Navasota" prior to Jan. 28, 1842. Mch. 29, 1880, all records burnt except surveyor's and sheriff's records and tax rolls.
Burleson		Feb. 26, 1884, records of Dist. Clerk and Sheriff and part of tax rolls burnt.
Burnet	Aug. 30, 1852.	
Caldwell	Aug. 21, 1848.	
Calhoun		First instrument recorded Aug. 28, 1846.
Callahan	July 30, 1877.	
Cameron		First official act of first recorder Sep. 25, 1848. In 1854 books C and D were stolen, being records from Aug. 14, 1850, to Feb. 6, 1851.
Camp	July 8, 1874.	
Cass	July 22, 1846.	The county was called "Davis" from Dec. 17, 1861, to May 16, 1871.
Chambers	About Aug. 1858.	Dec. 2, 1875, all records burnt.
Cherokee	Aug. 1, 1846.	
Clay	Aug. 16, 1860.	The county was abandoned in Fall of 1862, and all records taken to Montague county and there burnt Feb. 25, 1873. Clay county reorganized in 1873, and recorder qualified Aug. 9, 1873.
Coleman	Mch. 22, 1875.	
Collin	Nov. 3, 1846.	
Colorado	Feb. 10, 1837.	
Comal	Sep. 21, 1846.	
Comanche		First deed recorded June 2, 1856.
Couch	Apr. 3, 1879.	
Cooke	Aug. 7, 1848.	
Coryell	Mch. 15, 1854.	
Dallas	July 13, 1846.	Feb. 3, 1880, all county court and probate court records, except land records, burnt.
Delta	Oct. 7, 1870.	
Denton	July, 1846.	Dec. 22, 1875, all records burnt.
De Witt	Aug. 21, 1846.	
Dimmit	Nov. 16, 1880.	
Donley	Apr. 11, 1882.	
Duval	Dec. 4, 1876.	
Eastland	Jan. 1, 1874.	
Edwards	Oct. 3, 1883.	
Ellis	Aug. 15, 1850.	

COUNTY.	Date of Qualification of First Recorder.	RECORDS BURNT, MISSING, ETC. (See Note at head of first page.)
El Paso .....	.....	First deed recorded Mch. 30, 1850. Pages 1 to 36, and 647 to end of book A and pages 1 and 2 of book B torn out "during the war."
Erath.....	1856.....	In latter part of 1866 all records burnt.
Falls .....	Oct. 10, 1850 .....	Oct. 2, 1872, book K burnt.
Fannin.....	.....	Earliest recording done Feb. 20, 1838.
Fayette.....	Jan. 15, 1838.....	.....
Fort Bend.....	Jan., 1838.....	.....
Franklin.....	May 18, 1875.....	.....
Freestone.....	Jan. 28, 1851.....	.....
Frio .....	Aug. 7, 1871.....	June, 1877, book B disappeared, probably stolen.
Galveston .....	.....	First instrument filed for record July 13, 1838.
Gillespie .....	1848.....	July 1, 1850, book A burnt.
Goliad .....	Spring of 1838.....	June 6, 1870, all records burnt except book H (which is badly mutilated) and except surveyor's records.
Gonzales .....	Jan. 29, 1838.....	.....
Grayson .....	.....	First deed recorded Sep. 4, 1846.
Gregg .....	July 11, 1873.....	.....
Grimes .....	1846.....	In Fall of 1848 all records burnt.
Guadalupe .....	Aug. 7, 1846.....	.....
Hamilton .....	About Aug., 1858.....	Sep. 10, 1863, book A burnt; books B and C badly injured, but were transcribed into book F.
Hardeman.....	Jan. 5, 1885.....	.....
Hardin .....	.....	First official act of recorder was Sep. 11, 1858.
Harris .....	.....	First instrument filed for record Feb. 27, 1837.
Harrison .....	Nov. 27, 1839.....	The county was called "Harrisburg" prior to Dec. 28, 1839.
Haskell .....	Feb. 9, 1885.....	.....
Hays.....	Aug. 25, 1848.....	July 31, 1876, book A of mortgages, and pages 160 to 230 of book J burnt.
Henderson.....	Aug. 1, 1846.....	Feb. 13, 1885, some district court records burnt; no land records burnt.
Hidalgo.....	Jan. 20, 1853.....	.....
Hill .....	1853.....	Sep. 17, 1872, book L burnt.
Hood.....	Dec., 1866.....	Mch. 5, 1875, all records burnt.
Hopkins.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Oct. 5, 1846.
Houston .....	About Oct. 1, 1837.....	Feb. 2, 1865, all records burnt.
Howard .....	June 26, 1882.....	Nov. 13, 1882, books W, A, 1, 2, 3, 4, of records of deeds, and some other records of county clerk and district clerk burnt.
Hunt.....	July 28, 1846.....	.....
Jack.....	July 18, 1857.....	.....
Jackson .....	.....	First instrument filed for record Mch. 8, 1837.
Jasper .....	About 1839.....	Oct. 28, 1849, all records burnt.
Jefferson .....	.....	Earliest record is Mch. 20, 1837.
Johnson .....	Aug. 21, 1854.....	.....
Jones .....	July 7, 1881.....	.....
Karnes .....	About Feb., 1854.....	July, 1865, all records burnt, except district court records.
Kaufman.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Oct. 9, 1848.
Kendall.....	Mch. 8, 1862.....	.....
Kerr.....	Apr. 5, 1856.....	.....
Kimble.....	In 1876, or early in 1877.....	April 22, 1884, all records burnt.
Kinney .....	Nov. 17, 1872.....	.....
Lamar .....	Feb. 22, 1841.....	Pages 1 and 2 of book K, Vol. 1, missing.
Lampasas .....	About Apr. 1856.....	Dec. 25, 1871, all records burnt.
LaSalle .....	Dec. 7, 1880.....	Sep. 27, 1873, all records, except part of book A, lost by "overflow."
Lavaca .....	July 31, 1846.....	.....
Lee.....	June 19, 1874.....	.....
Leon .....	Aug. 14, 1846.....	.....
Liberty .....	1837.....	Dec. 11, 1874, all records burnt.
Limestone.....	About Aug., 1846.....	Oct. 24, 1873, all records burnt, except surveyor's records.
Live Oak.....	Aug., 1856 .....	First two or three months of records of deeds almost illegible.
Llano.....	About Aug., 1856.....	Dec. 12, 1874, books A, B, C, D, E, burnt.
McCulloch.....	Jan. 10, 1876.....	Oct. 17, 1880, books A, B, C, D, E, F, burnt.
McLennan .....	Aug. 24, 1850.....	.....
McMullen .....	Jan. 5, 1877.....	The county was probably organized about 1862, and abandoned; reorganized again in 1871, but abandoned before any deeds were recorded.
Madison .....	Early in 1853.....	Book D was stolen. June 5, 1865, all records burnt. Jan. 20, 1873, all records burnt.
Marion .....	Mch. 24, 1860.....	.....
Mason .....	.....	First instrument filed for record Sep. 8, 1858.
Matagorda....	Feb. 15, 1837.....	Jan. 21, 1877, books C and E and all papers and court dockets and minutes burnt.
Maverick.....	Aug. 1, 1871.....	.....
Medina .....	.....	First deed recorded Sep. 5, 1848.
Menard .....	May 8, 1871.....	.....

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Midland.....	July 8, 1885.....	.....
Milam.....	About Mch. 1, 1837	Apr. 9, 1874, all records burnt.
Mitchell.....	Jan. 25, 1881.....	.....
Montague.....	.....	First recorder elected Aug. 2, 1858. Feb. 25, 1873, all record books of district and county court burnt. Mch. 31, 1884, all surveyor's and part of district court records burnt.
Montgomery.....	.....	First deed recorded Feb. 27, 1838. Pages 435, 436, 437 and 438 cut out of book E.
Morris.....	May 31, 1875.....	.....
Nacogdoches.....	Feb. or Mch., 1837.....	First instrument filed for record Mch. 20, 1837. Some "Archive" instruments missing.
Navarro.....	July 31, 1846.....	Fall of 1855, records of commissioner's and district court burnt.
Newton.....	Aug. 1, 1846.....	.....
Nolan.....	Jan. 28, 1881.....	.....
Nueces.....	July 29, 1846.....	.....
Oldham.....	Jan. 12, 1881.....	.....
Orange.....	Apr. 5, 1852.....	.....
Palo Pinto.....	May 13, 1857.....	.....
Panola.....	July 27, 1846.....	.....
Parker.....	.....	First recorder elected Mch. 11, 1856. May 13, 1874, all records burnt, except surveyor's and some of treasurer's records.
Pecos.....	Apr. 6, 1875.....	.....
Polk.....	Aug. 8, 1846.....	.....
Presidio.....	About July 15, 1875.....	.....
Rains.....	About Nov. 1, 1870	First instrument filed for record Dec. 9, 1870. Nov. 20, 1879, all records burnt.
Red River.....	Jan. 29, 1838.....	Feb., 1875, book U stolen. Pages 179 to end of book A missing.
Reeves.....	Dec. 24, 1884.....	.....
Refugio.....	1839, or before.....	A few pages in beginning of books A and C missing.
Robertson.....	About Mch. 27, 1838	First instrument filed for record Apr. 23, 1838.
Rockwall.....	Apr. 18, 1873.....	In 1872 some old probate and some old district court papers burnt. Mch. 16, 1875, all records burnt.
Runnels.....	Feb. 28, 1880.....	.....
Rusk.....	Feb. 28, 1843.....	Mch. 5, 1878, books B, C, D, E, burnt.
Sabine.....	1837.....	Nov. 22, 1875, all records burnt.
S'n Augustine.....	1837.....	.....
San Jacinto.....	Nov. 11, 1870.....	.....
San Patricio.....	.....	First instrument filed for record May 17, 1847.
San Saba.....	June, 1856.....	First deed recorded June 30, 1856. In 1869, district court minutes destroyed by a "storm."
Seurry.....	July 10, 1884.....	.....
Shackelford.....	Sep. 28, 1874.....	.....
Shelby.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Apr. 25, 1837. June 1, 1882, all records burnt.
Smith.....	Aug. 10, 1846.....	.....
Somervell.....	Apr. 26, 1875.....	.....
Starr.....	Aug. 29, 1848.....	.....
Stephens.....	June 1, 1876.....	.....
Tarrant.....	1851 or 1852.....	Mch. 29, 1876, all records burnt except book G of wills, etc.
Taylor.....	July 16, 1878.....	.....
Throekmorton.....	Mch. 31, 1879.....	.....
Titus.....	.....	First deed recorded Dec. 2, 1846.
Tom Green.....	Jan. 30, 1875.....	.....
Travis.....	.....	First instrument recorded Feb. 20, 1840.
Trinity.....	About Jan. 1, 1852	Dec. 1872, all records burnt. Feb., 1876, all records, except records of deeds, burnt. Mch., 1880, minutes of district court, made since last burning, missing.
Tyler.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Sep. 16, 1846. In 1862 probate record, book D, stolen.
Upshur.....	Sep. 30, 1846.....	In 1861 or 1862 probate record, book A, disappeared.
Uvalde.....	May 12, 1856.....	.....
Val Verde.....	May 16, 1885.....	.....
Van Zandt.....	Aug. 24, 1848.....	Book A missing.
Victoria.....	Jan. 30, 1838.....	.....
Walker.....	Aug. 3, 1846.....	.....
Waller.....	Aug. 26, 1873.....	.....
Washington.....	1837.....	.....
Webb.....	About Nov. 1848.....	Some leaves torn in records of deeds, etc., of 1861 to 1867.
Wharton.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Sep. 7, 1846.
Wheeler.....	May 19, 1879.....	.....
Wichita.....	July 10, 1882.....	.....
Wilbarger.....	Nov. 1, 1881.....	.....
Williamson.....	.....	First instrument filed for record Sep. 25, 1848.
Wilson.....	Aug. 16, 1860.....	.....
Wise.....	May 15, 1856.....	Nov. 25, 1881, probate minutes burnt.
Wood.....	About Aug. 18, 1850	First instrument filed for record Sep. 11, 1850. Dec. 11, 1878, all records burnt, except book E of surveyor's records.
Young.....	Aug. 18, 1856.....	.....
Zapata.....	About Apr. 1858.....	In 1863 all records destroyed by "military."
Zavalla.....	Mch. 17, 1884.....	.....

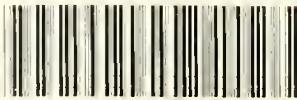
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